

Application No.: 10/656,227

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**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims replaces all other versions of claims previously presented.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-14 (Canceled)

15 (New): A fuel cell assembly mounted in a vehicle, comprising:

a fuel cell stack comprising plural fuel cells stacked in a fixed direction and a pair of end plates which are stacked on both ends of the plural fuel cells;

a stacking bolt which penetrates the pair of end plates in the fixed direction and maintain the plural fuel cells in a stacked state;

a case housing the fuel cell stack; and

a bolt which penetrates an end plate and the case in a direction perpendicular to the fixed direction to support the fuel cell stack to the case.

16 (New): The fuel cell assembly as defined in claim 15, wherein the pair of end plates comprise a first plate made of an electrically conducting material, and the fuel cell assembly further comprises an insulating member which electrically insulates the bolt which penetrates an end plate and the case in a direction perpendicular to the fixed direction from the first plate.

17 (New): The fuel cell assembly as defined in claim 15, further comprising a rubber mount gripped by a bracket fixed to the case and a bracket fixed to the vehicle.

18 (New): A fuel cell assembly mounted in a vehicle, comprising:

a fuel cell stack comprising plural fuel cells stacked in a fixed direction;

a stacking bolt disposed along the fixed direction to maintain the plural fuel cells in a stacked state; and

a fluid supply/discharge block fitted to an end of the fuel cell stack to supply fluid from outside to each of the plural fuel cells and discharge fluid from each of the plural fuel cells to

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outside;

a case housing the fuel cell stack and the fluid supply/discharge block; and

a bolt which penetrates the fluid supply/discharge block and the case in a direction perpendicular to the fixed direction to support the fuel cell stack to the case.

19 (New): The fuel cell assembly as defined in claim 18, wherein the fuel cell assembly further comprises a first plate supporting one end of the fuel cell stack, a second plate fixed to the other end of the fuel cell stack, and the fluid supply/discharge block is in close contact with the second plate via a gap which permits displacement of the second plate in the fixed direction.

20 (New): The fuel cell assembly as defined in claim 19, further comprising an expansion/contraction mechanism comprising a depression formed in the fluid supply/discharge block, and a projection formed in the second plate and inserted in the depression.

21 (New): The fuel cell assembly as defined in claim 20, wherein the expansion/contraction mechanism further comprises a passage which causes the fluid to flow through the projection between the fluid supply/discharge block and the second plate, and a seal member interposed between the projection and the depression.

22 (New): The fuel cell assembly as defined in claim 19, wherein the second plate is made of an electrically conducting material.

23 (New): The fuel cell assembly as defined in claim 19, wherein the fuel cell stack comprises two stack units arranged in parallel, the stack units are electrically connected in series via the second plate, the case comprises a coolant inlet and outlet, and the fluid supply/discharge block has a supply passage disposed parallel to the second plate which distributes coolant supplied to the inlet between the stack units, and a discharge passage disposed parallel to the second plate which recovers and leads coolant which has cooled the stack units to the outlet.

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24 (New): The fuel cell assembly as defined in claim 19, wherein the fluid supply/discharge block is made of an electrically nonconductive material.

25 (New): The fuel cell assembly as defined in Claim 18, further comprising a rubber mount gripped by a bracket fixed to the case and a bracket fixed to the vehicle so as to support the case in the vehicle.